

# **Cammeray Public School P&C Association**

## **Meeting Minutes – 24 February 2010 7.30pm**

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendance**

**P&C Executive** - Nadine Foley, Ian Davies, Simone Spitznagel, Bruce Tulloch, Donna McNatty, Ben Escudero, Karen Pearson, Ingmar Taylor, Geraldine Mack, Jenny Riseborough

**Teaching Body** - Pam Crawley, Jan Scott, Alexandra Ball, Tim Witney

**Members of the School Community** - See attached

**1. Apologies** - Nicole Overton, Janet Morgan

#### **2. Acceptance of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted subject to one amendment; that the minutes of the 18 November reflect that the letter regarding the proposed building works on Zone 3 was received from owners of the adjoining town house as opposed to adjoining unit block.

#### **3. Welcome Back BBQ**

Volunteers are still required to help host the Welcome Back BBQ on 5<sup>th</sup> March 6-8pm.

A budget request of \$600 was requested for provisions. At the same time, an explicit approval of \$600 was approved for all future Welcome Back BBQ's hosted by the P&C.

#### **4. Zone 4 Opening**

In recognition of the people involved in the completion of the Astroturf Project on Zone 4, a small ceremony will be held at 5:30 on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March prior to the Welcome Back BBQ.

Invitations have been sent to local and federal members Gladys Berejiklian and Joe Hockey as well as the local press. A football match will be on held on Zone 4 between teachers, parents and kids.

#### **5. Fundraising Update**

Semester fees have been sent to parents and incorporate the annual P&C contribution. Contributions will be collected and accounted for the same as last year, where a \$200 voluntary contribution per child is requested and can be paid for at the same time as semester fees.

#### **6. Building Works Update**

The removal/relocation of a number of demountables from Zone 3 has been completed and fencing has been installed around the two demountables that have relocated to Zone 1. Whilst the Department of Education has funded the internal painting and recarpeting of these demountables, external painting will need to be funded by the school.

The Astroturf Project on Zone 4 is now concluded i.e. complete with the installation of gates and drainage.

The school is now awaiting an update from Project Manager, Bovis Lend Lease (BLL), outlining their progress on the building program and what will be the focus of their next project.

It is anticipated that works will commence on the scheduled permanent class rooms on Zone 3 in February. The structure will comprise a double storey building housing six new classrooms with provisions for an expansion of up to ten in the future.

It has been recommended that the children and teachers in the classrooms located close to the building works on Zone 3 be rotated on a regular basis for the duration of the building works as it is unfair that the same children and teachers be impacted by the sound during these works.

The installation of permanent toilets under the school hall is being coordinated by the Department of Public Works. This project was deferred over the Christmas break because of the works being undertaken by BLL. The Department of Public Works have indicated that they will not commence work on site until BLL have completed their designated works which will not be until 2011.

It was highlighted that there is insufficient technological infrastructure in place at the school to accommodate, amongst other things, some of the interactive whiteboards purchased for some classrooms and the library.

One school parent raised safety concerns surrounding the relocated demountable classrooms on Zone 1. Whilst the DET have arranged metal fencing around the base of one of the classrooms, and the school insisted upon the same remediation works around the second classroom, there are still areas that need to be addressed. In particular, the brick footings could prove a trip hazard and are in addition to other protruding items which it is felt pose a safety issue.

Following all the discussion around building works, one parent asked the question of "When is enough, enough?" noting that the large influx of students in recent years, prompting the current need for the extensive building works, has changed the environment at CPS. It is not a question of restricting freedom of access but rather OH&S issues which need to be considered. It was suggested that the current rate of growth of students enrolments is not sustainable.

It was suggested that the school formulate a view as to what is the likely organic growth in student enrollments in the short term. At the same time, the P&C Executive Committee undertook to arrange for a Department representative to present at a future P&C meeting their views on the schooling requirements in and around the Cammeray region. The name Emily Appleton was recommended as a contact.

## **7. Traffic Concerns**

The ongoing traffic concerns along Bellevue Street prompted discussions surrounding what options are open to the school to try and manage this matter. Two possible options were discussed including the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Bellevue Street as well as reconsidering the current 5-minute parking restriction at drop off and pick up times.

It was noted that approximately 18 months ago the school investigated the opportunity of obtaining a pedestrian crossing on Bellevue Street. A Traffic Engineer was engaged and pointed out that the only viable location was on the southern end of the school near Palmer

Street. The RTA indicated that they would have to enforce their requirements of having 100 meter "no parking zone" adjacent to the pedestrian crossing, and therefore this option did not receive support from nearby residents or school parents.

It appears that the only viable alternatives are to reassess the restricted parking on Bellevue Street and convert the current 5-minute restriction to simply a "Kiss and Drop" zone where drivers are not allowed to park and leave their car. The other alternative was to increase the parking limit to 2-hour parking so that cars are discouraged from double parking on the street, whilst awaiting for a parking spot to become available, as cars are actually "parked" and unlikely to relocate in the short term.

It was suggested that a vote on the matter should be sought at the next meeting.

In the interim, sporadic reminders will continue to be placed in the newsletter reminding parents of the rules as well as having traffic patrol staff monitor the area with increased frequency.

## **8. Recognition of Staff**

Historically, the P&C have paid for coffee, tea and biscuits in the staff room in recognition of the staff's efforts being above and beyond what is required.

Cammeray Staff have been invited to provide the P&C with a proposal for other items that could be considered to them to thank them for their dedication. Examples might include the purchase of a coffee machine, an additional fridge to store their lunch or simply replace the existing dishwasher which is nearing obsolescence.

## **9. Band Report**

Participation numbers continued to increase this year. The Intermediate Band camp is scheduled for February. It was determined that this year's Junior Band camp still be run over 2 days (1 & 2 May) but not be a residential. Invoices for band semester fees have just been distributed. Concert band performances are scheduled for the Welcome Back BBQ on the 5 March and A-day. As a fund raising exercise, the Band is running the school disco at the end of Term 1.

## **10. School Council Meeting**

The first School Council meeting has been held but representatives asked to defer a formal run down of proceedings until the next P&C meeting. It was noted however that the issue of Bullying is their major focus at present.

## **11. Treasurer's Report**

The Uniform Shop made \$22,000 over the three-month period to the end of January 2010.

At the November meeting it was agreed that of the funds held, \$10,000 would be allocated for the provision of STLA and GATS support which has now been committed.

Currently, \$66,000 is held in the P&C General Fund. A further \$14,000 is held within the P&C Building Fund however there is a restriction on what these funds can be used for.

Whilst the \$14,000 in the Building Fund account is considered too small for any significant building work, it was thought that these funds could be used for the remediation safety works and painting required on the demountables on Zone 1. In addition, the school could provide the P&C with any other minor repair and maintenance work that these funds could be applied to. i.e. painting of decking, installation of garden beds, etc.

When the P&C was questioned where the money in the General Fund was being allocated it was noted that funds have been allocated towards the following items:

- \$48,000 teaching aid;
- \$20,000 for improvement and expansion of play areas including Frog Hollow; and
- \$20,000 for additional math and literacy resources.

In addition, past experience has highlighted that additional funding be set aside as an add-on to any major building works completed as there is always further modification/refinement works required that are not covered off by the particular project team. Also, funds need to be set aside for the future replacement of interactive whiteboards as they approach obsolescence.

It was suggested that a priority list be established of items that the school would like and the P&C could consider each item on its individual merit.

## **12. Principal's Report**

Pam Crawley submitted a "Situation Analysis" report to the P&C highlighting her observations of the position of CPS as the 2010 school year begins.

## **13. Correspondence**

Jean Pierre Le Loc'h, a student parent and nearby resident, has been keeping the school informed of any updates provided by Bovis Lend Lease to nearby residents relating to the building works that BLL are engaged in at the school.

## **14. Any Other Business**

A Working Bee will be held at the school 13 & 14 March. A note of clarification of the dates will be issued in the next newsletter.

Approval was given (Mover: Evan Predavec and Seconded: Donna McNatty) to spend up to \$600 for purchase of lightweight tables for use at various functions at the school including such things as the uniform shop, school discos, etc.

The continued restriction on the places at after-school care was raised. A number of families remain on a waitlist awaiting a position. Pam Crawley and Evan Predavec undertook that they will talk with Nanyima to gauge their view on when additional positions might become available.

The meeting closed at 9.20

**Next meeting: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 7.30pm in the Staffroom.**